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Docket No.: 050395-0387

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Masaaki HIRANO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 8071
Application No.: 10/590,278 : Group Art Unit: 1731
Filed: August 22, 2006 : Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING OPTICAL FIBER MATRIX

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Submitted herewith is the International Preliminary Report on Patentability and Written Opinion concerning International Application No. PCT/JP2005/002874, filed on February 23,

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10/590,278

2005 along with the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority. The documents discussed in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability should already be of record in this application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**



SHEET 1 OF 1

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's Unique citation designation number (optional). **2** Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /J.H./